

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

DIVISION OF WESTERN
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
OCT 14 1936
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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This telegram ¹⁻¹³³⁶ must be
closely paraphrased
before being communicated
to anyone. (A)

FROM

Addis Ababa

Dated October 13, 1936

Rec'd 11:57 a.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

587, October 13, 10 a.m.

Standard Oil Company of New Jersey has sent Jesse,
its representative in Cairo, here to attempt to secure
contract to furnish Italian authorities aviation gasoline.
He arrived yesterday morning in plane flown by Count de
Sibour and expects to remain five or six days.

ENGERT

WSB

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
M.T.S.G.
OCT 13 1936
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

OCT 15 1936

FILED

865D.6363/1

GE

MED

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone (a)

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

ADDIS ABABA

Dated October 29, 1936

FROM Received 3:52 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington

620, October 29, 10 a.m.

My 587, October 12, 10 a.m.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Jesse and de Sibour left last week. They told me before their departure that although they had achieved nothing very tangible they had been promised sympathetic consideration for their proposals. The Vice Governor General said he was personally in favor of the project and would so report to Rome. General Pinna, head of Military Aviation, said he would be glad to be rid of his present obligation to furnish gasoline to civil aviation and even suggested that they might apply for a contract to supply aviation gasoline to the military.

Requirements for civil aviation would be about three thousand tons per annum and for military aviation between six and seven thousand tons. I am told "grade desired can be furnished only by American or British refineries.

I have suggested to Jesse that in view of their relatively encouraging reception here his company should at once submit concrete proposals to the Italian Government as the final decision will doubtless be taken in Rome.

SMS:EMB

ENGERT

865D.6363/2

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DOCUMENT FILE

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NOTE

SEE 884.6363 African Exploration and Development Corp./83 FOR memorandum

FROM State Department () DATED Nov.18, 1936
TO NE(Murray) NAME 1-1127

REGARDING:

Petroleum concession granted the African Exploration and Development Corporation in Ethiopia (Rickett concession).

Call of P. W. Parker and George S. Walden of the Standard-Vacuum Oil Company to inquire whether there were any developments in connection with -. Statement of Walden that the Italian Government would probably try to revive the concession and inquiry whether the Department would have any objection.

865D.6363 /3

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 865d.01/237 FOR #132

FROM Italy (Phillips) DATED Dec. 22, 1936
TO NAME 1-1127 o p o

REGARDING: Investigation of mineral resources of Ethiopia,
especially as regards crude oil. Arrival at
Dire Dawa, Harrar of a research mission of the
Italian Government Petroleum Organization for
purpose of-

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865D.6363 / 4

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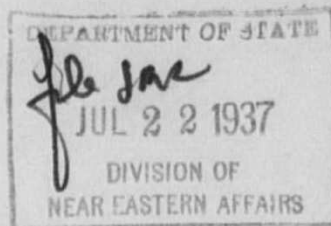
Dear Sir: Is it true that Panoco-
or any other U. S. oil company - is
exploiting Abyssinia at this un-
propitious time by leasing oil
rights there? As a citizen & taxpayer
I protest any such activity as
unfair and most untimely.

Yours truly

Margaret H. Kripke

35 1/2 Stone Davis Hall
Wellesley, Mass.

7-20-37



NE
Reply

7/23/37

NE/RC/EL

JULY 24 1937

865D.6363/5

FILED

JUL 26 1937

865D.6363/5

In reply refer to
NE 865D.6363/5

July 24 1937

Miss Margaret H. Kruke,
326 Stone Davis Hall,
Wellesley, Massachusetts.

Madam:

Acknowledgment is made of your communication of
July 20, 1937, inquiring regarding the leasing of oil
rights in Ethiopia by any American company at this time.

The Department has no knowledge of the leasing of
any such rights to which you refer by any American companies.

Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of State:

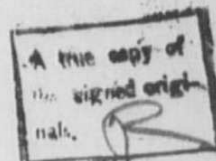
Wallace Murray,
Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs

CR *[Signature]*

JUL 23 1937.PM

NE JRC/EG

JAC



7-20-37

NE

Ans'd 7/27/37
NE-Joe! GC.

JULY 27 1937

865D.6363/6

7-20-37
Honorable Sir:
it true that the
Sungor Oil Co
of U.S. is
exploring the
oil well in
Ethiopia?
This information
was given
out at a lecture
Tues and Sun
morning
about the activities
civil govt. Thank
you very much to
(Miss) Perry R. Rhenner
San Leb
Provincetown
Mass.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 26 1937
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

JUL 29 1937

FILED

July 27 1937

In reply refer to
NE 865D.6363/6

Miss Reva M. Rohrheimer,
General Delivery,
Provincetown, Massachusetts.

Madam:

Acknowledgment is made of your communication of
July 20, 1937, inquiring regarding the leasing of oil
rights in Ethiopia by any American company at this time.

The Department has no knowledge of the leasing of
any such rights to which you refer by any American com-
panies.

Very truly yours,

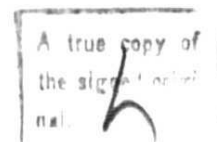
For the Secretary of State:

Wallace Murray
Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs

NE: JRC/GO

JRC *[Signature]*

JUL 27 1937
ck / som



865D.6363/6

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

ROOM 812

MANHATTAN DIVISION: 50 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

WATKINS 9-2849

DEPARTMENT OF STATE



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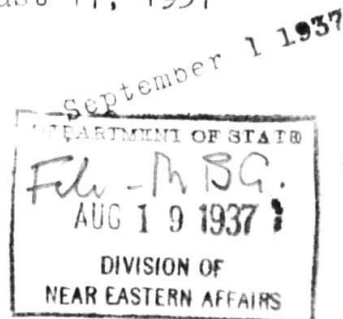
Radio

Mrs. Eva Ingersoll Wakefield



1937 AUG 19 AM 11 36

Cornwall, New York
August 17, 1937
DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS



Chief of African Affairs
State Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The personal representative of Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, Dr. M. E. Bayen, has written to me that one of the branches of the Standard Oil Company is trying to arrange with the Italian Government for a concession in Ethiopia. Is it legal for the Oil Company to do this? So far as I know, we have not yet recognized the King of Italy as the Emperor of Ethiopia with the right to grant concessions to outsiders. Until we do so, it seems to me quite unethical, to say the least, for people of this country to ask for concessions from a government which deliberately broke its solemn pledge in the Kellogg pact, and attacked an unoffending and helpless country. Can anything be done to prevent this concession from being granted to the oil company which is now asking it. I should be grateful for an early reply.

Yours sincerely

Katherine D. Blake

865D.6363/7

September 1 1937

In reply refer to
NE 865D.6363/7

Miss Katherine D. Blake,
Women's International League
for Peace and Freedom,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.

Madam:

The Department has received your letter of August 17, 1937, containing an inquiry with regard to the propriety of an alleged attempt by the Standard Oil Company to obtain from the Italian Government a concession in Ethiopia.

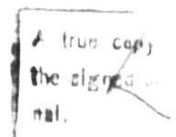
In reply you are informed that the Department has no knowledge of any negotiations between the Standard Oil Company and the Italian Government regarding a concession in Ethiopia.

Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Wallace Murray
Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs

NE: MBG/GC



DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 891.6363 Amiranian Oil Co./70 FOR Tel.75, 11 a.m.

FROM Iran (Engert) DATED June 22, 1938
TO NAME 1-1137 670

REGARDING:

Petroleum for Italian East African possessions.

Statement of the Italian Minister that his Government was disappointed at withdrawal of Amiranian Oil Company as it had been hoped that East African possessions could be furnished with petroleum from this source.

865D.6363 / 8

Central File: Decimal File 865D.6363, Internal Affairs Of States, Mines. Mining. Concessions., Carbon. Graphite., Italian East Africa, Petroleum., October 13, 1936 - June 22, 1938. October 13, 1936 - June 22, 1938. MS European Colonialism in the Early 20th Century. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, link.gale.com/apps/doc/FSC5109727806/FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC. Accessed 18 June 2025.